



WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



12 July 2026

This Week's Roster

Preacher:

Colin

Elder on duty:

Kasha

Prayer Leader:

Janette

Bible Reader:

—

Children's Talk:

Roger

Coffee:

Joseph & Helen
Ting

Next Week's Roster

Preacher:

Paul Chan

Elder on duty:

Martin

Prayer Leader:

Martin

Bible Reader:

Nelleke

Children's Talk:

Tbc

Coffee:

Martin & Mariaane
van der Merwe

Giving

Today's

Second Offering:

Reformed Theology
College

Year to June Budgeted
giving:

\$216,310

Actual (June):

\$218,410



YOU'RE INVITED

Opening Day!

Join us as Mernda Reformed Church meets for the very first time!

SUNDAY 19 JULY
4:00 PM

Mernda Park Primary School
40 Riverdale Blvd, Mernda VIC 3754

Come celebrate the beginning of something new — everyone is warmly welcome!

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."
1 Corinthians 3:6



THINGS TO PUT IN YOUR CALENDAR



Dates for upcoming services:

19 July:

4:00pm - First Service in the new building! 4 PM

2 Aug:

4:00pm - Worship Service

VISITING OR NEW TO WONGA PARK OR MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH?

Jenna, our community engagement worker, would love to meet you and answer any questions you have about our Wonga Park church community.

Feel free to contact her on
0403650398.

BOTH CHURCHES

19 July: The Lord's Supper

20 July: CHURCH AGM!

29 August: Trivia Night



You are warmly invited to the Women's Morning tea that we are hosting right here at Wonga Park.

The theme for the day is:
"You can make a difference!"

We are excited that we can have Shirley Patterson as our guest speaker.

Saturday 8th of August 10-12

Please scan the below QR code to register:



TERM 3

SUPERDASH

2026



STATE YOUTH CAMP



Sunday*

STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Location TBC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



Saturday*

CONVENTION FUNDRAISER TRIVIA NIGHT

5:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Bring your friends and your brain power
for an unforgettable night of trivia.

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FUN

29 AUG, 2026 | 5:30 PM

Wonga Park CRC

FOOD, DRINKS & DESSERTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT
A SILENT AUCTION WILL ALSO BE HELD DURING THE EVENT

SAUSAGE SIZZLE & BOEREWORS STARTS AT 5:45 PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 6:45 PM

Register Here





Our church AGM will be held on Monday 20 July at 8.00pm. The meeting will be on Zoom, so you can join from the convenience of your home. The meeting will be run from the church and anyone preferring to join in person there is welcome to do so.

One item at the AGM is the approval of the church budget for the new financial year. It makes sense for this to take place at the start of the financial year in July, rather than a few months later as we've done in previous years.

As is our custom, ministry reports will be circulated in advance and won't be presented in person at the AGM. However, there will be time to ask any questions arising from these reports.

No new business can be introduced at the AGM, under our organization rules. If you wish to raise an item of business, please do so in writing by emailing it to Peter Williams no later than Monday 13 July, so that it can be reviewed at the Church Council meeting on the 14th.

If you have any questions about the AGM, Peter, Chris or any of the elders will be happy to help.

PRAYER POINTS

Personal prayer points

Loving Father please hear the prayers of your servants and look upon them with favour.
As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

That we will never be ashamed of the gospel but always ready to stand up for our Lord
and Saviour Jesus Christ.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone
who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (Romans 1:16 NRSV)

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for his salvation won for us by our Lord
Jesus.

Congregational prayer points

Please continue to pray for Jaya and Jesse Winter and for Jenna's friend who recently had prem babies, please uphold them before that Lord, asking him for health and wellbeing.

Please continue to pray for Ben and Lauren Palmer, seeking God's intervention in their situation through the healing of Ben.

Please pray for the Mernda church that the Lord will bless this venture as they move into other facilities, pray that he will use it mightily for his glory.

International prayer points

Please continue to pray for our nation that THE Lord will have mercy on us and not hold our sins against us and bring about a mighty awakening that will shake its foundations.

Please pray for our world especially as the situation between Iran and the U.S. is once again deteriorating.

Please pray for God's church in Ethiopia.

At least 12 Orthodox Christians were killed in multiple attacks in the predominantly Muslim community in Arsi Zone. During the night of the attacks, their properties were burned down along with the 101-year-old Telata St. Gabriel Church. More than 280 people were displaced. While the Telata St. Gabriel Church burned down, the Kara Kufta Medhane Alem church was also looted. Believers fled the area with some of the sacred tablets from the churches, along with personal belongings, when some of their houses were also set on fire.

Apart from those killed, more than 280 people were displaced in Aseko Woreda. "Orthodox Christians have been forced from the homes where they were born, raised, and built their lives. Their houses were singled out and burned solely because of their religion, and their property and livestock were looted. Those residents who survived the attacks fled with nothing but their faith and identity, and they are now left stranded in open areas without shelter," Arsi Diocese Public Relation Media reports. The displaced learned their properties and livestock were looted, Addis Standard reports.

Local sources say the attackers gave warnings of their intentions to the residents. While some have sought to portray these attacks through an ethnic lens, the information available so far indicates that the attacks have primarily targeted Orthodox Christians and Orthodox churches. Only these Orthodox Christians in the predominantly Muslim Arsi Zone reported similar incidents during the time.

The Arsi Zone has been attacked by armed groups since 2020. The Reporter Magazine reports "this specific zone has faced an ongoing pattern of mass casualties and displacements targeting Orthodox Christians, with violence escalating significantly since July 2020. Prior to this latest incident, the most recent mass killing occurred in October 2025, when more than 30 Orthodox Christians were killed and numerous others were displaced."

Pray for families of those who were killed, that Holy Spirit will comfort them.
Pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual provision and safety of those who are displaced.
Pray for the government to have wisdom and willpower to bring justice to the perpetrators.
Pray for the Christians in Arsi Zone for wisdom and safety in the situation.
Pray that the attackers will come to know Jesus.

Open Doors

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Thursday the 16th of July at 7.30pm.

Thank You!

A note of great thanks to the Lord and the congregation for helping us succeed our needed budget.

Updated finance figures from the budget for next year.

(Ending June 2026 - Note this excludes the aircon income and expense.):

Budgeted Income: 216,310

Actual Income: 218,410

Budgeted Expense: 211,540

Actual Expense: 217,170

OUR GIVING, AN ACT OF WORSHIP

In our Church we have two offerings every Sunday. The first goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various Christian causes. This week our second offering is for Reformed Theology College.

If you would like to support the work of you can do so by in Church giving - simply add your offering to the bag at the back of Church or by bank transfer -

BSB 063-167. A/C 1015-8356

If using bank transfer please indicate whether it is for the first offering "Sun1" or second offering "Sun 2" in the reference line. Or you can give online via our Church app.

<https://wpcrc.org.au/give>



Another way to make payments is by scanning this QR code.

Growth Groups

If you would like to join one of these groups or find out more, please see either Jenna or Chris.

Rob and Jenna - Tuesday nights 8pm online

Wendy ladies group Thursdays 10am @ church

Chris and Sarah Wednesday fortnightly 8pm

Adri and Alister: Wednesday nights 7:30pm. in person

Herman Linde: Monday nights, 8pm online.



SERMON NOTES

Bible passage:

Esther 4:1-17

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



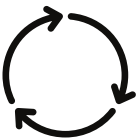
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



Personal
application
for your life



Theme of
passage



How does it
fit with other
passages in
the Bible



Who will you
tell about
what you have
learnt?

[illegible]



BIRTHDAYS

Heather Linde	10 July
Ka-men Kam	18 July
Isaac Organtzoglou	20 July
Lizemarie Szarek	22 July
Suzanne Theron	30 July
Lynette Dyer	31 July



Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	session@wpcrc.org.au
Community Engagement:	Jenna Miller	jenna@wpcrc.org.au
Church Administration:	Chris Pretorius	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Music Ministry:	Mia Van Wyk	miavwyk@gmail.com
Sound & Visuals:	Michael van der Merwe	vdmichael02@gmail.com
Children's Talk:	Janette Fernando	janettefernando@iprimus.com.au
Sunday School:	Ilze Kellerman	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	youth@wpcrc.org.au
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	vdmichael02@gmail.com
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	herman.linde@live.com.au
Facilities & Maintenance:	Riaan Bergh	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au

* To contact telephonically please refer to the directory in the Church app